

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please rewrite the paragraph on Page 4, Lines 5-19, of the specification as follows:

“The method further comprises the step of predetermining a limit of ~~minus~~ of ~~minus~~ differential density independently of the threshold of lowest stained density for inspection of shortage of printed density at every pixel. The method further comprises the step of predetermining a limit of ~~plus-of plus~~ differential density independently of the threshold of highest blurred density for inspection of excess of printed density at every pixel. The method further comprises the step of predetermining areas for decision of shortage or excess of printed density. The method further comprises the step of comparing the multi level data of inspection with the multi level data of reference at every pixel for recognition of difference between the multi level data of reference and the multi level data of inspection. The method further comprises the step of deciding on shortage or excess of printed density when the difference exceeds the limit of ~~minus-of minus~~ differential density or ~~plus-of plus~~ differential density by portions having areas which exceed the areas for decision of shortage or excess of printed density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph bridging Pages 4 and 5 of the specification, i.e., the paragraph from Page 4, Line 23, through Page 5, Line 20, as follows:

“It should therefore be recognized that the method comprises the step of predetermining a limit threshold of lowest stained density near a level of lowest printed density for inspection of stained parts. It is preferable that the limit

threshold of lowest stained density is disposed above the level of lowest printed density. The method further comprises the step of predetermining a limit threshold of highest blurred density near a level of highest printed density for inspection of blurred parts. It is preferable that the limit threshold of highest blurred density is disposed below the level of highest printed density. The method further comprises the step of predetermining a limit of minus-of minus differential density independently of the limit threshold of lowest stained density for inspection of shortage of printed density it is preferable that the limit of minus-of minus differential density is disposed above the limit threshold of lowest stained density. The method further comprises the step of predetermining a limit of plus-of plus differential density independently of the limit threshold of highest blurred density for inspection of excess of printed density. It is preferable that the limit of plus-of plus differential density is disposed below the limit threshold of highest blurred density. The method further comprises the step of reading multi level data of reference of each of colors from a printed paper on which images are printed to be good. The method further comprises the step of reading multi level data of inspection of each of colors from a printed paper which is fed when inspecting. The method further comprises the step of using the multi level data of reference, the multi level data of inspection, the limit threshold of lowest stained density and the limit threshold of highest blurred density for inspection of stained parts or blurred parts. The method further comprises the step of using the multilevel data of reference, the multi level data of inspection, the limit of minus-of minus

differential density and the limit of ~~plus-of plus~~ differential density for inspection of shortage or excess of printed density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph on Page 7, Lines 5-19, of the specification as follows:

“The apparatus further comprises predetermining means for predetermining a limit of ~~minus-of minus~~ differential density independently of the threshold of lowest stained density for inspection of shortage of printed density and predetermining a limit of ~~plus-of plus~~ differential density independently of the threshold of highest blurred density for inspection of excess of printed density.

The apparatus further comprises predetermining means for predetermining areas for decision of shortage or excess of printed density. The apparatus further comprises comparing means for comparing the multi level data of inspection with the multi level data of reference at every pixel for recognition of difference between the multi level data of reference and the multi level data of inspection.

The apparatus further comprises deciding means for deciding on shortage or excess of printed density when the difference exceeds the limit of ~~minus-of minus~~ differential density or ~~plus-of plus~~ differential density by portions having areas which exceed the areas for decision of shortage or excess of printed density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph on Page 8, Lines 15 and 16, of the specification as follows:

“FIG. 10 is an explanatory view of multi level images of inspection at the limit of ~~minus-of minus~~ differential density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph on Page 8, Lines 17 and 18, of the specification as follows:

“FIG. 11 is an explanatory view of multi level images of inspection at the limit of plus-of plus differential density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph bridging Pages 11 and 12 of the specification, .i. e., the paragraph from page 11, Line 15, through Page 12, Line 4, as follows:

“In the embodiment, the data processing means 22 further includes predetermining means for predetermining a limit (c) of minus-of minus differential density independently of the threshold (a) of lowest stained density for inspection of shortage of printed density and predetermining a limit (d) of plus-of plus differential density independently of the threshold (b) of highest blurred density for inspection of excess of printed density. The limit (c) of minus-of minus differential density is disposed above the threshold (a) of lowest stained density. The limit (d) of plus-of plus differential density is disposed below the threshold (b) of highest blurred density. The comparing means 26 further includes predetermining means for predetermining areas for decision of shortage or excess of printed density. In addition, the comparing means 26 is arranged to compare the multi level data of inspection with the multi level data of reference at every pixel for recognition of difference between the multi level data of reference and the multi level data of inspection. The comparing means 26 further includes deciding means for deciding on shortage or excess of printed density when the difference exceeds the limit (c) or (d) of minus-of minus differential density or

~~plus-of plus~~ differential density by portions having areas which exceed the areas for decision of shortage or excess of printed density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph on Page 12, Lines 5-9, of the specification as follows:

“In this connection, FIG. 9 illustrates the images printed to be good on the printed paper for establishing a reference for inspection of shortage or excess of printed density. FIG. 10 illustrates multi level images of inspection at the limit (c) of ~~minus-of minus~~ differential density. FIG. 11 illustrates multi level images of inspection at the limit (d) of ~~plus-of plus~~ differential density.”

Please rewrite the paragraph bridging Pages 12 and 13 of the specification, i.e., the paragraph from Page 12, Line 10, through Page 12, Line 3, as follows:

“It should therefore be recognized that the apparatus includes predetermining means for predetermining a limit threshold (a) of lowest stained density near a level (L1) of lowest printed density for inspection of stained parts and predetermining a limit threshold (b) of highest blurred density near the level (L2) of highest printed density for inspection of blurred parts. The limit threshold (a) of lowest stained density is disposed above the level (L1) of lowest printed density. The limit threshold (b) of highest blurred density is disposed below the level (L2) of highest printed density. The apparatus further includes predetermining means for predetermining the limit (c) of ~~minus-of minus~~ differential density independently of the limit threshold (a) of lowest stained density for inspection of shortage of printed density and predetermining the limit (d) of ~~plus-of plus~~

differential density independently of the limit threshold (b) of highest blurred density for inspection of excess of printed density. The limit (c) of minus of minus differential density is disposed above the limit threshold (a) of lowest stained density. The limit (d) of plus of plus differential density is disposed below the limit threshold (b) of highest blurred density. The apparatus is arranged to use the multi level data of reference, the multi level data of inspection, the limit threshold (a) of lowest stained density and the limit threshold (b) of highest blurred density for inspection of stained parts and blurred parts. The apparatus is further arranged to use the multi level data of reference, the multi level data of inspection, the limit (c) of minus of minus differential density end the limit (d) of plus of plus differential density for inspection of shortage or excess of printed density.”

Please rewrite the first full paragraph on Page 13, Lines 4-16, of the specification as follows:

“It should also be recognized that in the embodiment, the limit threshold (a) of lowest stained density comprises the threshold of lowest stained density. The limit threshold (b) of highest blurred density comprises the threshold of highest blurred density. In addition, the multi level data of reference are converted into the, two level data of reference when exceeding the threshold (a) or (b) of lowest stained density or highest blurred density. The multi level data of inspection are converted into the two level data of inspection when exceeding the threshold (a) or (b) of lowest stained density or highest blurred density, as described above.

Furthermore, the two level images of reference and inspection are reproduced in the memory from the two level data of reference and inspection, to compare the two level images of inspection with the two level images of reference for inspection of stained parts or blurred parts, as also described above.”

Please rewrite the paragraph bridging Pages 13 and 14 of the specification, i.e., the paragraph from Page 13, Line 25, through Page 14, Line 7, as follows:

“Furthermore, the apparatus is arranged to use the limits or thresholds (a) and (b) for inspection of stained parts and blurred parts, and use the limits (c) and (d) independent of the limits thresholds (a) and (b) for inspection of shortage or excess of printed density. In addition, the inspection of stained parts and blurred parts is dependent on the comparison of the two level images of inspection with the two level images of reference. The inspection of shortage or excess of printed density is dependent on the comparison of the multi level data of inspection with the multi level data of reference. The apparatus can therefore make a distinction between the inspection of stained parts or blurred parts and the inspection of shortage or excess of printed density without difficulty.”